IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

1. (CANCELLED)

2. (CANCELLED)

3. (CANCELLED)

4. (CANCELLED)

5. (CANCELLED)

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A printing control method in a printing apparatus which has a plurality of paper feed inlets and a plurality of paper discharge outlets, establishes a plurality of logical printers, each of which is used exclusively by a corresponding one of a plurality of devices, and prints using one of the plurality of logical printers in accordance with a print request from the corresponding one of the plurality of devices, comprising :

establishing a relevant logical printer selected from the plurality of logical printers corresponding to the print requesting device;

specifying a paper feed inlet and a paper discharge outlet for each of the logical printers, respectively, and storing specified paper feed inlets and paper discharge outlets in a table;

assigning a paper feed inlet and a paper discharge outlet for each of the established logical printers based on the contents stored in the table; and

receiving a print request from one of the plurality of devices independently of receiving a print request from another of the plurality of devices, and processing the print requests from each of the plurality of devices independently.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A printing control method according to claim 6, wherein a paper discharge outlet is assigned for each of the logical printers, so that the same paper discharge outlet is not assigned to another of the logical printers .

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A printing control method according to claim 6, wherein a paper feed inlet and a paper discharge outlet for each logical printer, are assigned by a panel operation.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) A printing control method according to claim 6, wherein the states of the logical printers are displayed in a list.

10 - 20 (CANCELLED)

21. (WITHDRAWN) A printing control method in an apparatus which has feed inlets and discharge outlets, and prints in accordance with a print request from a plurality of devices, comprising:

establishing a plurality of logical printers with a plurality of devices in parallel, wherein each of the logical printers is used exclusively and independently with a corresponding one of the respective devices;

assigning a feed inlet and a discharge outlet specified in advance for each of the logical printers; and

receiving a print request from one of the plurality of devices independently of receiving a print request from another of the plurality of devices, and processing the print requests from each of the plurality of devices independently.

22. (WITHDRAWN) A control method according to claim 21, wherein a discharge outlet is specified for each of the logical printers, so that the same discharge outlet is not assignedto another one of the logical printers.

23. (WITHDRAWN) A control method according to claim 21, wherein a feed inlet and a discharge outlet are specified for each of the logical printers by a panel operation.

24. (WITHDRAWN) A control method according to claim 21, further comprising displaying the states of the logical printers in a list.

25. (CANCELLED)

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26. (WITHDRAWN) A printing apparatus, comprising:

feed inlets and discharge outlets;

a printer engine to print on a sheet of paper; and

a printer controller to establish a plurality of logical printers with a plurality of devices in parallel, wherein each of the logical printers is used exclusively and independently with a corresponding one of the respective devices, and to print in accordance with a print request from one of the plurality of devices by using a feed inlet and a discharge outlet specified in advance for each of the logical printers,

wherein a print request is received from one of the plurality of devices independently of receiving a print request from another of the plurality of devices, and wherein the print requests are processed from each of the plurality of devices independently.